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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1946

FRANK ASKER, Medical Officer of Health.

ALEC LONGFELLOW, Chief Sanitary Inspector.

BOROUGH OF ROWLEY REGIS



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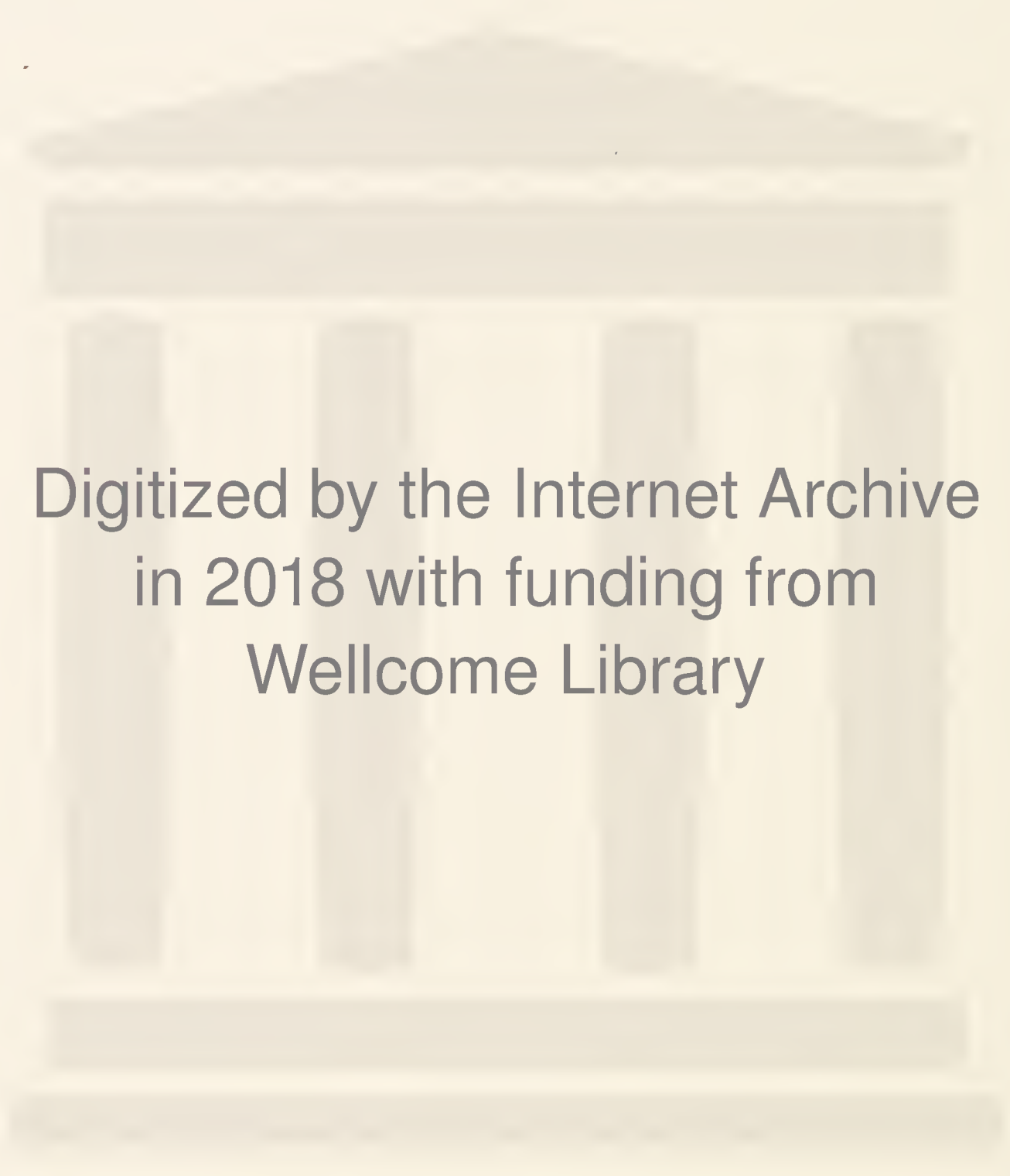
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

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Public Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Old Hill, Staffs.

November, 1947.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Rowley Regis.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year
ending 31st December, 1946, in which is incorporated the report
of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the
year calling for any special comment.

The incidence of infectious disease was lower than in the pre-
vious year, 321 cases as compared with 562.

The vital statistics are included in the report and are fairly
satisfactory—one fact is worthy of special mention and that is that
there were no maternal deaths during the year.

I again am able to report that the work of the department was
carried out satisfactorily and smoothly due to the loyal help and
co-operation of my staff to whom I extend my gratitude, especially
to Dr. Hastilow, the Deputy Medical Officer and to Miss Morgan,
the Chief Clerk.

To the Members of the Council, I again take this opportunity
of expressing to them, my thanks for their help, consideration and
co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

F. ASKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:—

FRANK ASKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:—

IRENE D. M. F. CONWAY HASTILOW, M.B., Ch.B.,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.Obst.R.C.O.G., D.C.H.

Ophthalmic Surgeon (part-time):—

A. M. DUFF, M.B., B.C.L., B.A.O.

Consulting Obstetrician (part-time):—

W. E. BARNIE-ADSHEAD, M.B., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G.

Aural Surgeon (part-time):—

C. L. WALKER, F.R.C.S. (Ed.).

Consulting Paediatrician for Premature Babies (part-time):—

FRANCES BRAID, M.D., F.R.C.P.

Dental Officer:—

L. H. THOMPSON, L.D.S.

Sanitary Inspector:—

ALEC LONGFELLOW, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.,
Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, Meat and Food Inspector's
Certificate, Smoke Inspector's Certificate, Diploma of the
Institute of Public Cleansing, Honours in Plumbing and
Sanitary Science of the City and Guilds of London Institute.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:—

WILLIAM WOOLDRIDGE, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector's
Certificate.

LEONARD COOMBES, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector's
Certificate and Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate.

GEORGE FLETCHER, Pupil Assistant. (Left for National
work, 13th November, 1944).

Senior Health Visitor:—

N. E. CHILTON, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

Health Visitors (who are also School Nurses):—

A. E. DOLLMAN, S.R.N., S.C.M.

M. A. FELLOWS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C.

M. I. SALT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C.

Assistant Health Visitors (who are also School Nurses):—

F. I. NOTCUTT, S.R.N.

M. HACKETT, S.R.N., S.R.F.N.

} Appointed 1st April,
1946.

B. STEVENSON, S.R.N. (Resigned 18th May, 1946).

Dental Nurse:—

A. M. GILLIVER, S.R.N.

Municipal Midwives:—

F. NORWOOD, S.C.M.
S. E. RANN, S.C.M.
J. M. STALEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.
B. M. WEBBER, S.R.N., S.C.M.
H. M. GREPE, S.C.M.
M. C. McGINLEY, S.R.N., S.C.M.
A. L. CROSS, S.R.N., F.R.N., S.C.M.
L. NICKLIN, S.C.M.

Clerks:—

D. MORGAN	} Whole-time jointly with School Medical Department.
M. ROUND (Appointment terminated 31st July, 1946).	
I. E. ROUND (Resigned 31st December, 1946).	
G. JONES	
V. DUNN (Returned from H.M.F., 1st July, 1946).	
H. TYLER (Mrs.)	} Whole-time Sanitary Inspector's Clerks.
E. D. PRIEST (Com- menced 1st January, 1946).	
M. HUNT (Commenced 1st October, 1946).	

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,828
Population, Census 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	41,235
Estimated mid-year 1946	...	...	...	...	...	...	46,930
Number of Houses (end of 1946 according to Rate Books)	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,989
Rateable value at December, 1946	...	...	...	...	...	...	£179,159
Sum represented by a Penny Rate at 31st March, 1946.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
—gross	...	...	...	...	...	...	£691/5/10
Estimated product of a Penny Rate at 31st December, 1946	...	...	...	...	...	...	£695

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births : Legitimate	859	447	412
Illegitimate	23	12	11
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ...			18.79
Still Births	21	11	10
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)			23.80
Deaths	434	235	199
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ...			9.24

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (headings 29 & 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :

	Total	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)
No. 29 Puerperal and Post-Abortion Sepsis	—	—
No. 30. Other maternal causes ...	—	—
Total	—	—

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	41.95
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	40.74
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	86.95

Deaths from :—

Whooping Cough (all ages)	4
Measles (all ages)	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1
Scarlet Fever	Nil
Diphtheria	1

BIRTHS.

The total births accredited to Rowley Regis during the year under review was 882, an increase of 14 on the preceding year. The birth rate for the area was 18.79 which figure is lower than that of the whole country (viz. 19.1). Of these 882 births, 23 were illegitimate (12 male and 11 female). The majority of births were attended by Municipal Midwives.

DAY-TIME NURSERIES.

The two Nurseries were transferred to Staffordshire County Council on 1st April, 1946 for use as Nursery Schools. One student obtained the diploma of the National Society of Children's Nurseries during the year.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH IN THIS AREA.

CAUSE OF DEATH	M.	F.	Total
ALL CAUSES	235	199	434
Typhoid and Parat. Fevers	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	2	2	4
Diphtheria	1	—	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	15	7	22
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	1	2
Syphilitic Diseases	1	1	2
Influenza	1	—	1
Measles	1	—	1
Ac. polio-myel. and polio-enceph.	—	—	—
Ac. Inf. enceph.	—	—	—
Cancer of Buc. Cav. and Oesph (M), Uterus (F)	1	7	8
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	8	5	13
Cancer of Breast	—	7	7
Cancer of all other sites... ..	19	11	30
Diabetes	—	2	2
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	21	24	45
Heart disease	69	58	127
Other diseases of circulatory system	8	6	14
Bronchitis	19	8	27
Pneumonia	9	13	22
Other respiratory diseases	3	2	5
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	3	1	4
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	—	1
Appendicitis	1	1	2
Other Digestive Diseases	3	6	9
Nephritis	8	9	17
Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis	—	—	—
Other maternal causes	—	—	—
Premature Births	5	1	6
Con. mal. birth inj. infant. dis.	8	7	15
Suicide	3	1	4
Road Traffic Accidents	5	—	5
Other violent causes	3	5	8
All other causes	16	14	30
Deaths of Infants under 1 year :—			
Total	18	19	37
Legitimate	17	18	35
Illegitimate	1	1	2

GENERAL REMARKS ON THE DEATH RATE.

434 deaths were recorded for Rowley Regis in 1946. The general death rate showed a decrease, viz. 9.24 as compared with 10.15 in 1945. The highest number of deaths was attributable to the following causes :—

Heart Disease	...	...	127
Cancer	...	...	58

ABNORMAL SICKNESS OR MORTALITY.

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year nor have the occupations or environment of the district had any demonstrably detrimental effect upon the public health.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

It is not necessary to deal with these matters in this report as they remain unchanged from previous years.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

- (a) *Maternal Mortality* : No maternal deaths have occurred during the year.
- (b) *Infantile Mortality* : 37 deaths were registered in children under 1 year—the infantile mortality rate of 41.95 was higher than the figure for 1945 which was 40.32.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

During the year under review, one notification of Puerperal Pyrexia was received. The patient was admitted to hospital for treatment. The case rate per 1,000 is best expressed in relation to the number of births (live and still) registered rather than to the population and when calculated on this basis, is 1.107. This figure compares favourably with that for England and Wales—8.50.

MIDWIVES.

As in the previous year, supervision of the Municipal Midwives was undertaken by the Deputy Medical Officer. Routine visits of inspection were carried out, the bags and instruments examined, and their registers and records inspected. During the year, 14 midwives gave notice of intention to practise in the Borough, 6 of which were practising in a private capacity. Of the 774 cases dealt with in Rowley Regis, 490 were attended by Municipal Midwives as midwives, and 39 as Maternity Nurses. 245 cases were attended by private midwives. The average number of cases taken by each Municipal Midwife was approximately 66. Medical Aid was summoned either on account of mother or infants in 233 cases.

Two more Municipal Midwives received training in the administration of gas and air analgesia during the year, so that a total of 5 Municipal Midwives are now qualified to give this treatment. Patients are examined at the Ante-Natal Clinics and Certificates of fitness given.

Ninety cases received gas and air analgesia during the year.

HEALTH VISITING.

The Local Authority normally maintains a staff of 6 Health Visitors with combined duties of School Nurses. During the early months of the year, 4 Health Visitors with the help of a temporary

Assistant Health Visitor, and School Nurse were employed. On 1st April, the former Matrons of the Day-time Nurseries were appointed as Assistant Health Visitors and School Nurses, thus bringing up the number to 6.

The table below gives a summary of the visits made by the Health Visitors in 1946.

	Visits.	Re-visits.	Total.
Expectant Mothers	64	17	81
Live Births	961	1556	2517
Children 1 to 5 years... ..	54	4299	4353
Still Births	21	—	21
Infant Deaths	25	2	27
Maternal Deaths	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	—	—	—
Opthalmia Neonatorum	3	—	3
Pneumonia	3	—	3
Diphtheria	1	—	1
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Chicken Pox	1	—	1
Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases	—	—	—
Tuberculosis : County Council	92	473	565
„ Local Authority	4	8	12
Measles	21	—	21
Whooping Cough	37	—	37
Miscellaneous	418	237	655
	1705	6592	8297

The total number of visits paid by the Health Visitors was 8,297 which is an increase of 408 compared with last year.

CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE BABIES.

As in the previous year, this important work has been carried out by the Lichfield Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare Work. The Association has proved most helpful in this matter and have co-operated with the Health Visitors and the Clinics in every possible way to help both mothers and babies.

Below is a copy of the Report received from the Lichfield Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare of the work carried out in this Area during the year 1946.

“ During the year 6 cases of unmarried mothers and their babies have been helped by the workers of the Association.

One girl went into a Diocesan Home and did well there and those mothers who were able to stay in their own homes till the time of confinement were helped in various ways.

Four babies have remained with their mothers and been absorbed into the families. One baby was adopted through an adoption Society and one mother placed her baby with adopters of whom she had heard.

In addition to the above mentioned cases, several girls whose cases have been reported previously have been given help and advice."

CARE OF PREMATURE BABIES.

Special attention has been given these babies by both Midwives and Health Visitors. Cots, clothing and equipment have been loaned, where necessary, when these babies have been nursed at home.

In those cases where removal to Hospital was required, transport by Ambulance (equipped with a supply of Oxygen and heated basket) has been available.

HOME HELPS.

This scheme is still hampered by the difficulty of finding suitable women and only one home help has been employed during the year.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

Two children were on the register in 1946, but one was returned to the care of the parent before the end of the year. The Medical Officer of Health is the person designated to receive the necessary notices, and the Health Visitors visit such children under the statute.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Four Infant Welfare Centres are provided and maintained by the Council; seven sessions being held weekly. Two Nurses and a doctor are in attendance at the Centres, and are assisted by Voluntary Helpers, and here I take this opportunity of again placing on record my appreciation of the work undertaken by these ladies, and would like to say how much their services are appreciated by the mothers and staff.

- (a) The total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year, and who on the date of their first attendance were :—

(i) Under 1 year of age	...	642
(ii) Over 1 year of age	...	111

- (b) The total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year, and who at the end of the year were :—

(i) Under 1 year of age	...	504
(ii) Over 1 year of age	...	1367

- (c) The total number of attendances at the Centres was 15,008 as compared with 13,836 last year.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

There are three Clinics provided and maintained by the Council in which Ante-Natal work is carried out. The statistics of attendances and work done are given below :—

		Year 1946		1945
(i)	No. of cases	589	...	555
(ii)	No. of sessions held ...	155	...	156
(iii)	Total attendances ...	2987	...	2693
(iv)	Average attendances per session	19	...	17

Facilities exist for providing dental treatment, extra nourishment, etc., and all expectant mothers have been urged to take advantage of these facilities and of the vitamin supplements provided under the National Scheme.

POST-NATAL CLINICS.

During the latter half of the year, a monthly Post-natal Clinic has been held at Mace Street Clinic, Old Hill and attendances have been encouraging. In the other areas of the Borough, Post-Natal Clinics were held in conjunction with Ante-Natal clinics as heretofore, but it is hoped to institute separate Post-Natal sessions next year. The attendances for year were 67.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1.—(1) WATER.

The water is supplied by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company and is satisfactory both in (a) quantity and (b) quality.

(2) Bacteriological and Chemical analysis are taken frequently by the Company, and no adverse report has been received.

The following samples were taken by the Department during the year :—

117 & 118, Corngreaves Road, Cradley Heath, Staffs.

2 samples (Chemical and Bacteriological) from well, both satisfactory.

2 samples (Chemical and Bacteriological) from the pipe leading from the well to the houses, both satisfactory.

(3) The waters are not liable to Plumbo-Solvent action and

(4) No action was necessary in any form of contamination.

(5) All the Dwelling Houses and the population are supplied from the public water mains.

(a) Direct to the houses 95% estimated.

(b) By means of standpipes 5% estimated.

Most of the property supplied by standpipes is scheduled for clearance.

(2) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

All new work is supervised by the Building Inspector through the Surveyor's Department. General repairs under the Public Health Acts are done through the Sanitary Department.

Drainage work carried out through the Sanitary Department is as follows :—

No. of yards of new drains laid	71
New gullies fixed	1
New ventilation pipes fixed	1
New Inspection Chambers "	4
No. of drains unstopped by Council ...	172
Drains tested	16

In addition, the following work has been carried out :—

Additional W.C.'s provided	6
New urinals provided	1
Defective dustbins renewed	1564
New piggeries built	4
New cesspools	1
Water samples taken from watercourse ...	6

All new plans submitted to the Surveyor for approval are also examined by the Sanitary Department. This system of collaboration is particularly useful in connection with the enforcing of adequate Sanitary arrangements and fire escape provisions with regard to Factories and also Sanitary provision and washing facilities in connection with Shop premises.

2.—RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No complaints of nuisance has been received.

3.—(1) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

All existing privies are inaccessible to the sewer. The W.C. Ashpit and Cesspool accommodation in the Borough at the end of the year, December, 1946, is as follows :—

Wards.	No. of W.C's.	No. of Bins	No. of Privies.	No. of Pails.	No. of Cess-pools
Cradley Heath ...	2790	2735	3	14	1
Old Hill ...	2869	2891	3	10	—
Blackheath ...	1890	2104	—	—	—
Rowley Regis ...	3377	3707	10	42	14
Tividale ...	2214	2070	14	19	7
Totals ...	13140	13507	30	85	22

(2) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The cesspool emptyings are carried out by the Surveyor's Department with the gully emptying machine in conjunction with, and at the request of the Sanitary Department. They are situated as follows :—

CESSPOOLS.

Premises:

“ Briardene,” Oakham.
“ Greenfields,” Oakham.
“ Beulah,” Oakham.
“ Braema,” Oakham.
“ Brookfield,” Oakham.
“ Golf Club,” Oakham.
“ Wellfield House,” Oakham.
“ Del-garda,” New House, Darby’s Hill.
Marler Bros., Perry’s Lake, Rowley Regis.
“ The Dell,” Moor Lane, Rowley Regis.
“ Rufford,” Moor Lane, Rowley Regis.
“ Lyndale,” Moor Lane, Rowley Regis.
“ Diamond Cottages,” Gadds Green, Rowley Regis.
Two Cottages, Richard’s Quarries, Gadds Green.
“ The Spiers,” Birmingham to Wolverhampton New Road.
“ Pontymoile,” Birmingham to Wolverhampton New Road.
“ Windymoor,” Darby’s Hill, Oakham.
8, Darby’s Hill, Oakham.
Smart, Moor Lane, Rowley Regis.
Kendrick & Mole, Corngreaves Road, Cradley Heath.
Harrison, Darby’s Hill, Oakham.
B.S.A. (Rear of Vono Works).

DISPOSAL.

There is one centralised tip at Powke Lane. It is well maintained and has a life of approximately six years.

All material is passed over a weighbridge at the entrance before being disposed of.

CLEANSING SERVICES.

HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE.

Table showing Costs for the Year ending 31st March, 1946.

Item	Particulars.	COLLECTION.		DISPOSAL.		COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.	
		(a) including (b) excluding	loan charges, depreciation, revenue contributions to capital outlay and rents.	(a) including (b) excluding	loan charges, depreciation, revenue contributions to capital outlay and rents.	(a) including (b) excluding	loan charges, depreciation revenue contributions to capital outlay and rents.
(1)	(2)	(A) (3)	(B) (4)	(A) (5)	(B) (6)	(A) (7)	(B) (8)
REVENUE ACCOUNT.							
1.	Gross Expenditure ...	£ 6958 9 5	£ 6178 9 5	£ 1156 8 4	£ 1134 8 4	£ 8114 17 9	£ 7312 17 9
2.	Gross Income ...	55 1 9	55 1 9	14 0 0	14 0 0	69 1 9	69 1 9
3.	Net Cost ...	6903 7 8	6123 7 8	1142 8 4	1120 8 4	8045 16 0	7243 16 0
UNIT COSTS.							
4.	Gross Expenditure per ton ...	£ 15 11½	£ 14 2	£ 2 8	£ 2 7¼	£ 18 7½	£ 16 9
5.	Gross Income per ton ...	1½ 1¾	1¾	¼	¼	2	2
6.	Net Cost per ton ...	15 9¾	14 0¼	2 7¾	2 6¾	18 5½	16 7
7.	Net Cost per 1,000 population ...	146 2 1½	129 11 11½	24 3 7	23 14 3	170 5 8½	153 6 2½
8.	Net costs, per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected ...	537 1 2¾	476 7 7	88 17 6¼	87 3 3½	625 18 9	563 10 10½

CLEANSING SERVICES.

An additional S. & D. Freighter has been purchased during the year and was put into commission on 30th September, 1946.

The District is now divided up into five distinct rounds, with five vehicles working.

1.—Total refuse collected in tons, 31st March, 1946—8,731.

2.—Population: Middle of 1946 (estimated)—47,249.

3.—Area (Statute acres)—3,828.

4.—Weight (in cwt.s.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year)—10.112.

5.—Number of houses and premises—12,854.

6.—Method of Collection:

Mechanical Vehicles.	Percentage of refuse collected.
4	100%

7.—Method of disposal: Controlled tipping.

8.—Average length of haul: $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles.

9.—Number of employees other than clerical:

Collection—22.	Disposal—3.
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Time lost through sickness is as follows:—

1945—411 days.	1946—391 days.
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In addition to the above much time was lost through inclement weather.

WASTE RECOVERY.

The estimate value of Salvage Sales is as follows:—

			£	s.	d.
January	...	...	136	18	2
February	...	...	157	12	9
March	...	...	195	10	6
April	...	...	167	9	9
May	...	...	192	12	3
June	...	...	216	5	11
July	...	...	159	7	5
August	...	...	128	13	3
September	...	...	168	3	4
October	...	...	204	8	0
November	...	...	189	13	0
December	...	...	146	19	5
			<hr/>		
			£2,063	13	8
			<hr/>		

The following are the amounts of waste material recovered and returned to industry:—

		Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Waste paper	...	216	1	2	0
Pig food	... ..	357	3	2	0
Bones	... ..	3	12	0	10
Bottles and jars	...		10	1	0
Broken glass	...	1	10	0	0
Lead	... ..	1	6	0	0
Iron	... ..	2	4	0	0
Total	... ..	582	7	1	10

A bonus from the Board of Trade was claimed as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Paper	54	19	9
Pig food	77	0	9

Two young women were employed in the Department from 28th March for a house-to-house survey for defective dustbins and for a general “clean up” of the Borough, and from this date to the end of the year over 1,152 tons of accumulations of rubbish was removed over and above the same period in 1945. In addition, 1,673 notices were served, resulting in the provision or replacement of 1,564 dust bins.

In addition to the above, every house and factory was circularised with salvage bills entitled “18 Months Hard Labour.” At their request the Board of Trade (Salvage Section) was supplied with a number of copies and these were exhibited in the various regional centres in England, with the result that several Authorities asked permission to reproduce it for their own advertising campaign.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council accepted the offer of a 60% grant from the Ministry of Food Infestation Division, for the systematic survey and treatment of all the houses in the Borough re Circular N.S.12, dated 10th May, 1946, the work to be completed before 31st March, 1947.

An attractive two-colour handbill was prepared on rodent control, the cost of which was defrayed by advertisements on the back, and the work commenced in early September.

Three young women specially trained in rodent control disinfestation were employed.

By the end of the year 10,333 houses had been surveyed and much valuable information obtained as to the location of runs and major infestations.

Work carried out by the Department on business premises brought in a revenue of £196.

The sewers were test baited between the 29th April and 3rd May. 92 manholes were treated, resulting in 5 small takes. These were confined to one locality in consequence of which 15 manholes were dealt with, but only one small take was recorded with Poison taken.

The sewers are only nine inches in diameter and are generally surcharged and so are not rat infested.

The above "take" was traced to an adjoining factory which was badly infested, and at the request of the owners was dealt with successfully by the Department.

The following work has been carried out during the year:—

Houses surveyed	...	...	...	...	10333
Houses infested	...	...	...	...	47
Factories inspected	...	...	...	...	118
Factories infested	...	...	...	...	17
Food Stores inspected	...	...	...	...	57
Food Stores infested	...	...	...	...	7
Sewer manholes baited and test baited	...	...	...	...	107
Sewer manholes Poison bait taken	...	...	...	...	1
Drains infested	...	...	...	...	1
Sewage Works infested	...	...	...	...	1
Tips infested	...	...	...	...	3
No. of good takes (4oz. baits)	...	...	...	...	235
No. of small takes (4oz. baits)	...	...	...	...	574
No. of holes gassed (Cymag)	...	...	...	...	298

Income received for work done on Private Premises: £196.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

A.—THE NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR 1946.

HOUSES.

Under Public Health Acts.

Houses where no defects were found to exist	...	...	174
Houses where defects were found to exist	...	...	651
TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES inspected during the year 1946	...	...	825
RE-VISITS to houses for work in progress	...	...	1514

SYNOPSIS OF OTHER INSPECTIONS MADE.

Nature				No of Individual premises visited	Total Number of Inspections made
Shops Visited under Shops Acts ...				88	88
No. of Premises Visited re Vermin (Rats, Bugs, etc.)				10,526	11,573
Drains				506	773
Urinals				1	1
Slaughterhouses				19	343
Offensive Trades				1	9
Foodstores				418	1,315
Stables and Animals kept				6	8
Piggeries				190	718
Factories				148	287
Bakehouses				26	153
Cowsheds				22	83
Dairies				14	43
Van Dwellings				38	38
Carbide Stores				12	13
Petroleum Stores				108	123
Smoke				29	29
Infectious Diseases				140	188
Cinemas				4	11
Defective Bins				1,673	3,642
Wells and Water Supplies... ..				12	16
Water Courses				35	35
Ice Cream Stores				66	67
Complaints investigated				946	946
Schools				3	4
Small Pox contacts investigated				14	98
Scabies				5	7
Works Canteens and Restaurants				20	20

INTERVIEWS WITH OWNERS ... 962

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1946.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
DWELLING HOUSES:				
Defective roofs of coalhouses & verandahs	11	10	—	10
Defective roofs	211	149	—	149
Defective chimneys	55	60	—	60
Defective brickwork and joints	9	5	—	5
Defective and dangerous walls	6	3	—	3
Defective or no spouting	61	34	—	34
Obstructed spouting	8	2	—	2
Defective yard paving	6	—	—	—
Insanitary structures	2	4	—	4
Accumulations	10	10	—	10
Defective dustbins	1673	638	926	1564
Insufficient water supply	1	1	—	1
Dampness	12	10	—	10
Dirty dwelling houses	18	18	—	18
Dirty living rooms	16	16	—	16
Dirty bedrooms	26	30	—	30
Dirty staircases	6	5	—	5
Dirty pantries and cellars	6	5	—	5
Dirty floors	4	4	—	4
Defective and dangerous ceiling	86	64	—	64
Defective wall plaster	65	60	—	60
Defective doors, casements and steps	25	11	—	11
Defective firegrate and brickwork	29	28	—	28
Defective window frames and fastenings	56	38	—	38
Defective sash cords	56	39	—	39
Insufficient coalhouse accommodation	—	1	—	1
Defective and dangerous floors	17	22	—	22
External and internal painting	2	2	—	2
Defective staircase	2	3	—	3
Defective cellar gratings	1	—	—	—
Fixed windows	4	2	—	2
Defective hot water systems	2	1	—	1
Rodent infested	47	47	—	47
Bug infested	13	13	—	13
WASHHOUSES:				
Defective roofs	41	29	—	29
Defective chimneys	9	3	—	3
Defective brickwork and joints in walls	5	2	—	2
Dilapidated and dangerous washhouses... ..	4	2	—	2
Dirty washhouses	6	6	—	6
Defective floors	1	3	—	3
Defective ceiling and dangerous plaster... ..	5	3	—	3
Defective wall plaster	2	3	—	3
Defective boiler fireplaces	16	16	—	16

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1946.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defectd remedies
		Informal action	Formal action	
Defective washing boilers and boiler brickwork	35	27	—	27
Defective or obstructed sink waste pipes	5	7	—	7
Insufficient water supply and burst service pipes	8	14	—	14
Defective doors, casements and steps ...	3	2	—	2
Defective and dangerous walls	4	6	—	6
Defective window frames	—	3	—	3
Insanitary Sinks	4	2	—	2
Defective Sinks	3	5	—	5
Dangerous cisterns and wells	1	1	—	1

DRAINS AND WATER CLOSETS:

Defective roofs, W.C.'s, ashbin shelters	19	13	—	13
Defective and dangerous walls	10	5	—	5
Defective soil and vent pipes	—	1	—	1
Dirty water closets	—	2	—	2
Defective doors, cases and steps	15	3	—	3
Defective flushing apparatus	33	26	—	26
Defective W.C. pans and joints	30	35	1	36
Obstructed W.C.'s and drains	218	217	—	217
Defective or no seats	10	6	—	6
Burst service pipes	28	31	—	31
Insufficient water supply	5	3	—	3
Insufficient drainage	4	4	—	4
Insufficient W.C. accommodation	5	6	—	6
Defective drains	23	20	1	21
Broken inspection chamber cover	8	7	1	8
Dilapidated W.C.'s	—	4	—	4
Defective urinals	2	2	—	2
Dirty urinals	5	—	—	—
Defective pail closets	1	1	—	1
Rodent infested	1	1	—	1
Sewage Works rodent infested	1	1	—	1

FACTORIES:

Insufficient and dirty urinal accommoda- tion	7	7	—	7
Insufficient W.C. accommodation	18	5	—	5
Defective or no seats	10	10	—	10
Dirty water closets	72	83	—	83
Defective flushing apparatus	4	4	—	4
Insufficient light and ventilation in W.C.	11	12	—	12
Dilapidated W.C.s.	4	—	—	—
Insufficient screening to W.C.'s	1	1	—	1
No washing facilities	6	1	—	1

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1946.	No. of Defects remedied by			Total No. of Defects remedied
	No. of Defects found	Informal action	Formal action	
Defective and insufficient drainage ...	3	1	—	1
Defective roofs and chimneys ...	2	2	—	2
Defective doors and door fastenings ...	23	14	—	14
Obstructed drains ...	2	1	—	1
Defective spoutings ...	7	—	—	—
Rodent infested ...	17	17	—	17
Defective and dangerous walls ...	1	—	—	—
No facilities for meals ...	1	—	—	—
Doors made to open outwards ...	5	4	—	4
No fire escapes ...	1	—	—	—
Insanitary pail closets ...	4	4	—	4
Insufficient paving to sanitary con- veniences ...	1	—	—	—
Defective W.C. roofs ...	3	5	—	5
Insufficient water supply ...	5	2	—	2
No intervening ventilated space ...	4	4	—	4
Dirty factories ...	5	5	—	5
Verminous tips ...	3	3	—	3
PIGGERIES:				
Insufficient drainage ...	1	1	—	1
Filthy ...	4	3	—	3
Accumulations ...	3	3	—	3
BAKEHOUSES:				
Dirty ceiling and walls ...	13	11	—	11
Dirty store rooms ...	2	2	—	2
Obstructed drains ...	1	1	—	1
External and internal painting required	2	2	—	2
Accumulations ...	1	1	—	1
STABLES AND ANIMALS KEPT:				
Dirty stables ...	1	1	—	1
Accumulations ...	3	3	—	3
Nuisance from animals and poultry ...	5	6	—	6
FOODSTORES:				
Verminous ...	2	2	—	2
Defective and dirty floors ...	3	3	—	3
Defective doors and door casings ...	3	3	—	3
Dirty foodstores ...	8	8	—	8
Accumulations ...	3	4	—	4
Obstructed drains or insufficient drainage	2	1	—	1
Defective ceiling and walls ...	5	2	—	2
Defective W.C.s ...	4	1	—	1
Defective window frames and fastenings	1	1	—	1

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1945.					No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
						Informal action	Formal action	
Defective roofs	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
Defective chimneys	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Insufficient water supply	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
Insufficient sink accommodation	...	...	...	...	2	1	—	1
Infested by rodents	...	...	...	...	6	6	—	6
DAIRIES:								
Dirty dairies	...	...	...	...	3	3	—	3
Dirty sterilizing room	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
Obstructed drains	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
COWSHEDS:								
Dirty Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	8	8	—	8
Defective roofs	...	...	...	...	4	4	—	4
SCHOOLS:								
Obstructed drains and W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	—	10	—	10
CINEMAS:								
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
Defective fire escapes	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
CANTEENS:								
Verminous	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
No storage receptacles for waste	...	...	...	...	10	1	—	1
PETROLEUM STORES:								
Defective inspection chambers	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
Disused underground tanks rendered safe	...	...	...	...	2	2	—	2
REFUSE TIPS:								
Rat infested	...	...	...	...	3	3	—	3
CARBIDE STORES:								
Insufficient storage	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
STATIC WATER TANK:								
Stagnant water	...	...	...	...	3	3	—	3
Tanks demolished	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
SMOKE NUISANCES:					12	12	—	12

B. THE NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR 1946.

(Distinguishing Statutory from Informal).

INFORMAL NOTICES on the books, 31st December, 1945	127
FORMAL NOTICES on the books, 31st December, 1945	31
INFORMAL NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR 1946	1034
INFORMAL NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR 1946 (re Shops Act)	—
FORMAL NOTICES served during the year 1946	748
	<hr/> 1940

C. THE RESULT OF THE SERVICE OF SUCH NOTICES.

INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1946 which were outstanding 31st December, 1945	111
INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1946 which were served during the year	869
INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1946 which were served during the year (re Shops Act)	—
FORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1946 which were outstanding 31st December, 1945	5
(These notices relate to condemned property not yet demolished).	
FORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1946 which were served during the year	698
	<hr/> 1683
TOTAL NUMBER OF NOTICES on the books 31st December, 1946 (For analysis see below) :—	
FORMAL	76
INFORMAL	181
	<hr/> 257

COMPLAINTS.

The total number of complaints received during the year is 946.

OUTWORKERS.

During the year 18 lists have been received containing 83 names. Twelve Reminder Notices were sent out to employers.

(IV) SHOPS.

The Shops Act, in its entirety, is carried out by the Sanitary Staff and the following activity is recorded:—

Shops Inspected—88.

(V) VERMINOUS HOUSES.

1. Inspections for tenancy allocation of Council Houses ...	84
Found verminous and disinfested	4
	Other
	Bugs. Beetles. Crickets. causes.
Other Council houses disin- fested	11
Other dwelling houses disin- fested	7
2. Houses are disinfested by spraying and the use of D.D.T. Fluids and Powders.	

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	825
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	2339
(2) and (3) Inspections made under the Housing Acts ...	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling houses (Exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	651
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:—	
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	496
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—	
(a) Proceedings under the Housing Acts	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	16
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:—	
(a) By owners	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

In addition to the above, Notices were served on properties in respect of defective dust-bins as follows:—

Number of dust-bins for which Preliminary Notices were served	...	...	...	...	...	...	699
Number of dust-bins for which Legal Notices were served	...	...	...	...	...	...	974
						Total	1673
Number of dust-bins for which Preliminary Notices were complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	638
Number of dust-bins for which Legal Notices were complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	926
							1564

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

There are 10 cowkeepers in the district occupying 17 cowsheds. The approximate number of Milch Cows is 95. There is one Bottling establishment for Sterilized Milk and one for Accredited Milk to whom a Principal Licence has been granted.

Number of Retail Purveyors on Register, 31st December, 1946	201
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Number of Wholesale Traders and Producers on register 31st December, 1946	21
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Supplementary Licences granted :—

Tuberculin tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Accredited	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

SAMPLING OF FOODS.

114 samples were taken for analysis by the County Authority acting for and on behalf of the Borough. Of these, 106 were genuine and 8 were adulterated as follows :—

Article.	Genuine.	Adulterated	Nature.
Barley Flakes	1	—	
Butter	2	—	
Cloves	1	—	

Article.	Genuine.	Adulterated	Nature.
Cake Mixture	—	1	Contained not more than 0.3 available Carbon Dioxide. Suggest it should contain at least 0.40 being the amount required for self raising flour.
Cider	1	—	
Coffee	1	—	
Coffee and Chicory ...	2	—	
Dessert Mould	1	—	
Essence, Dandelion Coffee	1	—	
Essence, Green Ginger		—	
Wine	1	—	
Fat, cooking	1	—	
Forcemeat, Parsley, Lemon and Thyme ...	—	1	Lable has no statement of quantity and no proper statement of ingredients.
Gelatine	—	1	Contained 239 parts per million of Zinc instead of suggested limit of 100 parts per million.
Ginger, ground	2	—	
Glycerine	1	—	
Jam, gooseberry, full fruit standard	1	—	
Lard	1	—	
Madeira flavouring powder	1	—	
Margarine, special ...	2	—	
Marmalade, full fruit standard	1	—	
Marmalade Pudding ...	1	—	
Milk	32	—	
Milk	—	1	6.8% added water.
Milk	—	1	1.1% added water.
Milk	—	1	5.1% added water.
Milk	—	1	5.1% added water.
Milk	—	1	5.5% added water.
Milk, pasteurised ...	12	—	
Milk, sterilised	13	—	
Milk, tuberculin tested ...	6	—	
Mustard, compound ...	1	—	
Mustard, French	1	—	
Nutmegs, ground	1	—	
Parsley, dried	1	—	

Article.			Genuine.	Adulterated	Nature.
Paste, liver	...	...	1	—	
Peanut Butter	...	...	1	—	
Pom	...	...	1	—	
Sage, dried	...	...	1	—	
Salad Cream	...	...	1	—	
Sausage, beef preserved			1	—	
Semolina	...	...	1	—	
Soyghetti	...	...	1	—	
Spice, mixed	...	...	1	—	
Stuffing, sage and onions			1	—	
Tablets, Campden solution	...	...	1	—	
Tablets, Phospherine	...		1		
Talcum Powder	...	...	1		
Thyme, dried	...	...	1		
Vinegar, non-brewed	...		1		
Zinc and Castor Oil					
Cream	...	...	1		

The County Medical Officer of Health has kindly supplied the following particulars of bacteriological examination of milk samples taken during the year in the Borough :—

Designated milk samples	...	...	22
Number found satisfactory	...	...	21
Undesignated milk samples	...	...	41
Number found satisfactory	...	...	35

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Pigs are being dressed for Government distribution at one Slaughterhouse in Cradley Heath. Seventeen other slaughterhouses are licenced within the Borough and these are used for killing cottagers' pigs as required.

The number of pigs slaughtered and inspected in the district during the year was 1,893.

The undermentioned meat and food was condemned and destroyed during the year :—

Meat :—

Pigs' carcasses	...	...	...	268 lbs.
Pigs' plucks	...	...	...	98 „
Pigs' livers	...	...	...	8 „
Pigs' lungs	...	...	...	86 „
Pigs' heads	...	...	...	318 „
Pigs' offal	...	...	...	10 „
Bacon	...	...	...	1 „

Other Foods :—

Sausage, tinned	...	...	...	2½ lbs.
Shredded Wheat	...	...	...	11 „
Dried Fruit	...	...	...	659¾ „
Pickles	...	...	...	2 „
Fish and Meat Paste	...	...	...	2½ „
Syrup	...	...	...	30 „
Marmalade and jam	...	...	...	1 „
Canned vegetables	...	...	...	287½ „
Canned fruits	...	...	...	86 „
Canned meats	...	...	...	202¼ „
Canned milk	...	...	...	768 „
Canned fish	...	...	...	201 „
Canned soup	...	...	...	35 „
Canned Stew	...	...	...	32 „
Canned meat and vegetables	...	...	...	50 „
Jars of rhubarb	...	...	...	8 „
Tinned Mustard	...	...	...	2 „
Packets of soup	...	...	...	24 „
Cheese	...	...	...	10½ „
Sugar	...	...	...	22 „
Number of Eggs	...	...	...	462 „

PUBLIC MORTUARIES.

During the year 8 bodies have been received.

DISINFECTION.

The following articles have been disinfected by steam at Waterfall Lane Depot :—

Beds	...	...	...	15
Bed Covers	...	...	...	2
Blankets	...	...	...	5
Sheets	...	...	...	14
Pillows	...	...	...	20
Pillow Cases	...	...	...	8
Bolsters	...	...	...	9
Bolster Cases	...	...	...	3
Counterpanes	...	...	...	4
Overlays	...	...	...	4
Tablecloths	...	...	...	1
Palliasses	...	...	...	2

Number of rooms disinfected after infectious disease—19. In line with modern thought, gaseous disinfection of rooms is not done, except on request.

Re SCABIES :—

No. of persons cleansed at the Waterfall Lane Cleansing Station.	Adults	Males 8	Females —	Re-visits 32
No. of persons cleansed at the Clinics.	Adults	—	22	37
	School Children	57	61	688
	Children under 5 years.	9	15	73
		—	—	—
		74	98	830
		—	—	—

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the past year was 321, as compared with 562 in the previous year

SMALL POX.

No notification of Small Pox was received.

DIPHTHERIA.

The total number of cases notified in 1946, was 37, as against 63 in 1945. The number of deaths in consequence of this disease was 1, which was lower than for the previous year. During the year 900 children were immunised against Diphtheria.

PNEUMONIA.

There were 11 cases notified during the year, and 22 deaths occurred from all types of this disease. The number of deaths was higher than in 1945, the comparable figure being 9 notifications and 18 deaths.

SCARLET FEVER.

46 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified in 1946. 12 of the cases were removed to Isolation Hospitals, and the remainder were treated at home by local practitioners. There were no deaths in consequence of this disease.

CANCER.

The recorded number of deaths attributed to Cancer and Malignant Disease shows a decrease of 26, being 58 against 84 for 1945.

TUBERCULOSIS.

22 deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system and 2 deaths from other Tubercular diseases were registered in 1946, corresponding with 22 and 3 respectively in 1945.

Home visits to tuberculosis patients were made by the Health Visitors, as follows :—

	1945	1946
Visits	70	96
Re-visits	437	481

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Four cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified during the year.

ERYSIPELAS.

3 cases were notified in 1946, as compared with 3 in 1945.

MEASLES.

142 cases were notified. One death occurred from this cause.

WHOOPING COUGH.

75 cases were notified and 4 deaths occurred from this cause.

POLIOMYELITIS.

2 cases were notified during the year. One case was treated in the Moxley Isolation Hospital, and the other case in the Children's Hospital, Birmingham.

ENTERIC FEVER.

No cases have occurred in the district in the past year.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

This is carried out under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SCABIES AND VERMINOUS PERSONS.

As before, considerable care has been given to this phase of Public Health work during the year, the Health Visitors being instructed to pay particular attention to this problem. Cases of Scabies needing treatment, continue to be dealt with at the Mace Street Clinic where the Gas Cleansing Unit is utilised for this purpose. A woman attendant is on duty for three or more sessions per week and children and women are treated by hot shower baths and the application of Benzyl Benzoate.

Men requiring treatment are treated at the Cleansing Station attached to the Waterfall Lane Depot. Infected houses and bedding, clothing, etc., are disinfected by members of the Sanitary Inspector's Staff.

